

BIRMINGHAM (January 11)- Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) said the federal government needs to “let companies compete” by eliminating barriers to job creation.

During remarks in Shelby County today, Congressman Bachus said excessive federal regulations and misguided energy policies are making it harder for employers to create the jobs needed to boost the economy. Bachus spoke to the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce and to mayors and community leaders at a luncheon meeting in Columbiana.

Bachus said the proposed Keystone XL pipeline with Canada could provide a reliable and affordable source of oil to help ease high energy costs facing American manufacturers, but warned the project is being put at risk by the Obama Administration.

“At a time when we are too dependent on oil from the Middle East, the Keystone pipeline would supply the U.S. with as many as one million barrels of oil a day from a faithful friend. Now we are learning that if our government continues to delay the project, the oil and jobs could very well end up being shipped to China instead. It is time for the President to act in the national interest and approve the construction of the pipeline,” Bachus said.

Congressman Bachus also described how proposed Environmental Protection Agency regulations could threaten hundreds of cement plant jobs in Shelby, Jefferson, and St. Clair counties. Bachus has voted for legislation that would put the rules on hold pending more thorough review.

“The federal government needs to stop making it so hard for our private sector to create jobs,” Bachus said.

Congressman Bachus is scheduled to address the Blount County-Oneonta Chamber of Commerce on Thursday.

